

FORGIVENESS

The Church teaches that Jesus is our Savior; He came not to condemn, but to save. In the sacrament of penance or reconciliation Christ forgives all our sins, strengthens us spiritually, and restores us to a state of grace.

HURTS OF THE PAST

The Church is made up of imperfect people with human problems and issues. If you have been hurt by clergy or any church member, in any way, we ask your forgiveness. We believe that healing can be found in the sacraments and through the compassionate support of our faith community.

CHURCH TEACHING

The teachings of the Church provide guidance and help us to know, love, and serve God so that one day we may be united with Him forever in heaven. If you have questions about Church teaching, we invite you to speak with a priest or other knowledgeable person.

Information on rediscovering the Catholic faith with links to the USCCB website may be found at stmarkplano.org / under Adult Faith Formation / Rediscovering the Faith.



OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

You may have questions about your faith or the Catholic Church that have not been addressed here. If you would like to discuss these or other topics more fully, a parish representative will be happy to talk with you. Please call 972-423-4715.

St. Mark the Evangelist
www.stmarkplano.org

If you would like to speak with someone about returning to the Church, please contact us using the information below. Someone will be in touch with you soon.

If you are not ready to speak with someone, please join us for Mass. Take a bulletin and look at the various activities going on in our parish. Choose a place to start that feels comfortable. We look forward to seeing you.

In prayer, ask God to guide you. Your response to His loving call could be the first step toward a new beginning!

St. Mark the Evangelist
1105 West 15th Street
Plano, TX 75075

for additional information,
please contact:

Debbie Betz
972-423-4715, ext. 232
dbetz@stmarkplano.org

We miss you and we welcome you to
Come Home for Christmas.

*Have you drifted away from the Catholic Church?
Stopped going to Mass or attend infrequently?*



*Come Home
for Christmas*

*Come, let us return to the Lord... +
... and He will heal us...*

Hosea 6:1



From Bishop Kevin Farrell:

Grace and Peace to you in Christ.

Sometimes, before we even realize it, we find we have drifted away from something that once was important to us. If you have been away from church for some reason, I invite you to come back again to pray and to attend Mass.

You are an important part of our family and, like any family, when one person is missing, the family does not feel complete.

Please accept this invitation to rediscover the love of Christ and of your Catholic family and to fill that longing that you may be feeling for God.

Have you been asking questions like these?

What's missing in my spiritual life?

Am I missing something by not going to Mass and practicing my Catholic Faith?

I've been away from the Church for so long I wonder whether it's too late to return?

So much has changed since I went to Church. How will I ever get caught up?

I'm not sure I agree with everything the Church teaches.

I've made so many mistakes. Will the Church really welcome me back?

I was hurt by someone in the Church. How would returning to the Church help me?

If you've been wondering about these, or similar questions, you may be hearing God calling you back to the active practice of your Catholic faith. We can help you come back to the Church.

Catholic Diocese of Dallas
www.cathdal.org
214-528-2240

We Miss You

Every practicing Catholic is a gift to the Church community. As long as there are non-practicing Catholics, the Church is incomplete. We welcome all inactive Catholics to return to the faith so we can support and strengthen one another and the Church. Consider the following:

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

God's gift of faith strengthens us and helps us to live as members of the Body of Christ—the Church. The Church is made up of unique individuals, each with his or her own gifts to share. In turn, the gifts of the church community strengthen and support the whole. We need each other.

ABSENCE

It doesn't matter how long you've been away from the Church. Your return will bring tremendous joy to God! Through His grace, your faith can deepen and grow like never before.

CHANGES IN THE CHURCH

The Catholic faith is rich in its teachings and tradition. Even the most scholarly among us does not know everything. Learning about our Church and our faith is a lifelong process that can be enriched by adult formation classes and personal study. Anyone concerned that they need to catch up will feel right at home with other Catholics.